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Tahrik-i-Jadid Anjuman Ahmadiyya (Pakistan)

Editor : **NASEEM SAIFI**

Vol. 2 | APRIL 1966, Zil-Haj 1385 | No. 4

Young and old. All are working together to see the House of God completed at an early date. This Waqar-i-Amal is in connection with the Ahmadiyya Mosque at Ibadan, Nigeria.

چھوٹے اور بڑے ۔ سب کے سب ۔ ملکر وقارعمل کر رہے ہیں تا کہ ابادان ۔
نائیجیریا کی زیر تعمیر احمدیہ مسجد جلد سے جلد مکمل ہو جائے ۔

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THE Tahrik-i-Jadid

MONTHLY

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TAHRIK-I-JADID ANJUMAN AHMADIYYA (PAKISTAN)

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CONTENTS

1. Money and Men ... 2

2 Triumph of Islam ... 4

3. Jesus—a Human Being .. 5

4. Mantle of Righteousness ... 6

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Money and Men

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It is now conspicuously clear to every student of comparative religion that Islam is marching forward—and at a speed which is surprisingly fast and undoubtedly unprecedented, at least in the last few centuries. In every nook and corner of the world the flag of Islam is flying higher and higher and although various Muslim organisations are trying in their own way, the credit of all this move justifiably goes to the Ahmadiyya Movement. It has been in the field longer than anyother organisation and it has produced the most striking results. In fact it will not be too much to say that as for the opponents of Islam, the real and effective struggle is being made by none other than the Ahmadiyya Movement. It is only the activities of this Movement that have an impressive impact on the followers of other religions. Christianity, the most potent force arrayed against Islam. is heaving under the burden of the Ahmadiyya refutation of the traditional dogmatic adherence—and the truth is that this adherence is now getting loose to the extent that what is very outspokenly being said by as highly placed people as Bishops is considered to be nothing less than bombshell for Christendom. For example, writing about a recent publication, the Daily Telegraph of London says:

"The Episcopal Bishop of California Dr. James Pike is publishing a book already creakingly heralded as 'startling, disturbing, controversial, sensational and theological bombshell' etc. In this he explains that 'Jesus was in every sense a human being just like we are."

Bishop Pike is not alone in throwing this bombshell;

there are many others who are breaking the shackles of Christian traditionalism and are coming out in fairness and fullness of the times in which we live to prove that no other stand but that of Islam is true and therefore acceptable to human conscience.

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Who would dare deny that all this is happening under the impact of the world—wide activities of the Ahmadiyya Movement. But in order to hasten the complete supremacy of Islam, these activities must of necessity be expanded at the earliest possible time. It is in this context that we should like to call upon everybody interested in the progress of Islam to come forward and play his own part. The Tahrik-i-Jadid that is spearheading this struggle, needs more of money and men. In the words of Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Vakil-i-A' la,

"This task needs both money and men; money in abundance and a sufficient number of men capable to serve Islam with the requisite fervour and zeal; men who can dare to go wherever they are sent whether in the snow-covered peaks of Europe or the burning sands of Africa and braving heavy odds and hardships, who can set their face for a reward towards God alone.

"We need such men in large number and it is up to the Jamaat to produce them. Young men should therefore come forward and dedicate their lives for the sublime job and the Jamaat should offer a goodly portion of their children every year who should be educated and trained for shouldering this heavy burden."

The Tahrik-i-Jadid needs money and men—and you can supply this need of the Tahrik-i-Jadid. please ponder over it and act——in all your earnest and at the earliest possible time.

Triumph of Islam

(Fat-hi-Islam)

Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (peace be on him)

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O my Lord, bless these words of mine and turn the hearts of the people towards them.

O ye, may God protect you in the matters of the world as well as of religion. Today, after a very long time I should like to draw your attention to a very important matter in connection with the Divine Dispensation which God has entrusted to me for helping the religion of Islam. And while dealing with this matter I shall try all that I can with the power of speech that God has endowed me with to impress upon you the grandeur of this Dispensation and the need for supporting it so that I may have done my duty of conveying it to you. While speaking about this subject matter, therefore, I shall not mind what effect do my words produce on the hearers. What I shall keep in view is that the duty of the conveyance of this message which has been placed on my shoulders may be done in the way as it really should be done, whether the people listen to it willingly or unwillingly and whether they think good of me or otherwise. I entrust my affairs to God; And Allah is all-Seeing in the matters of His servants.

Hereunder I pen down what I have promised above:

O ye the seekers after truth and the lovers of Islam! It is quite clear to you that the times through which we are passing are such dark times that all the affairs pertaining to Faith as well as Practice have been upset and a strong storm of Error and Misguidance is raging all around. Faith has been substituted by a few words which are no more than a lip profession. And it is a few customs, extravagance or a few things of show that are now termed as the Righteous deeds.

The real virtue is entirely unknown. The philosophy and what can be termed the understanding of the law of nature have also proved to be deadly opposed to the spiritual talents. Those who know them are being adversely affected and are being drawn towards darkness. They stir up the poisonous elements and awaken the dormant Satan. Those who possess this knowledge (philosophy) contaminate the religious matters with faithlessness and begin to look down upon the Divine principles—fasting and prayer and other religious rituals. They do not even have any regard for God Himself rather most of them are no better than atheists and despite the fact that they are the children of Muslim parents they are the enemies of the religion (Islam). It often happens that those who study in the colleges, even before they have finished their secular studies, they bid good bye to the sympathy for religion and religion itself.

What I have mentioned so far is only one branch which is laden with the fruits of error in this Age; there are hundreds of others which are no less than this one. Lack of honesty is quite common and it has reached an extent where it can be said that it exists no more. In order to win worldly gains, deception knows no bounds. He who is most mischievous is considered to be most capable. Various kinds of untruths, dishonesty, unlawful acts, deception, falsehood and cheating of the worst type and greed laden plots are gaining ground; malice and disputes which are utterly devoid

of kindness are on the increase and a storm of bestial feelings seems to be raging. The more the people are getting versed in the persent day branches of knowledge and the current rules and regulations, the more they are losing the traits of good naturedness and good action and modesty; God-fearingness and honesty are on the decline.

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The teachings of the Christians are also laying various kinds of mines to blow up the truth and faithfulness and in order to annihilate Islam they are making use of lies and fabrications on every occasion that they can get hold of for (religious) robbery and are using ever-new tactics for dissuading the people and are defaming that Perfect Person who is the pride of all the holy persons and the crown of all those who have achieved nearness to God and the chief of all the prophets. So much so that with their devilish designs they show Islam and the pious Guide of Islam in very bad colours on the stages of the Dramatic displays. And such fabricated blemishes are attributed to them on the stage that it can be said that they bring into play all their meanness to defame Islam and the Sacred Prophet.

Jesus—a Human Being

Just like we are—Bishop Pike

That the foundations of Christianity have been shaken is not so easily understandable from the attitude of the lower stratta in Christendom, for the people in that sphere are apt to believe whatever they are told. Their thinking is done by others. As for the people on top, who feel they can think and are in a position to express the results of their thinking openly and forcefully, they do not leave anybody in doubt that the edifice of the traditional Christianity can no more stand the onslaughts of the advancing scientific mind. Bishop after Bishop is declaring his disagreement with what has been called the basis of Christianity. The latest in this queue is Bishop James Pike who has very recently published a book entitled 'What is this Treasure'.

Bishop Pike is considered to be one of the most controversial churchmen in America. In this book he presents Jesus as a man who chose himself as a Messiah. In his own words:

> "Jesus was in every sense a human being just like we are. Like us He was free to make decisions including the big decision of what He would do with His life. He freely chose to do what He believed God wanted Him to do. He did not care whether He fitted or got ahead. And He did not."

According to Bishop Pike, Virgin Birth was brought into the picture 'to establish what the Jews of the period regarded as an essential requisite of Messiahship namely blood lineage from King David. The purpose of the Virgin Birth narratives is understandable. It was fairly common in the Mediterranean world to provide for gods, demigods and heroes—as the setting for a gem—miraculous birth as an impressive context; so this seemed appropriate for Jesus too.'

Indeed, those among the Christians who are in a position to think over things and sift the grain from the chaff are numerously and clearly coming out to support all that may hasten the exit of Christianity from the stage of the world.

MANTLE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Bashir Ahmad Orchard

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"Wonderful is the jewel the name of which is righteousness. Blessed is he who practises righteousness. So O ye Muslims ! perfect your righteousness."

(*The Promised Messiah*)

Man has been given a lease of life on this planet for the primary purpose of cultivating within himself Divine attributes whereby he may become an embodiment of righteousness shedding heavenly light wherever he treads. There is no worthier or higher goal in life than the acquisition of holiness and righteousness which Muslims have been exhorted to cultivate through obedience to the laws of God. All kinds of blessings have been promised to those who earnestly strive forward on the Right Path :

> "And whoso obeys Allah and this Messenger of His shall be among those on whom Allah has bestowed His blessings namely the Prophets, the Truthful, the Martyrs and the Righteous. And excellent companions are these. (Quran 4:70)

This verse reveals that the doors are ever open to the higher realms of spiritual attainment wherein lie terraces of blessings as far as the eye of the soul can see becauseboth in this life and in the next life rewards are graded according to individual achievement. God says regarding the status of true believers in this world :

> "They have grades of rank with their Lord." (Quran 8:5)

And speaking of their status in the world to come God says :

> "Therein they will hear no idle talk nor lying. A recompense from thy Lord—a gift in proportion to their works." (Quran 78:36,37)

The Holy Prophet Mohammad (peace be on him) has also said :

> "There are a hundred grades in paradise prepared by Allah for those who fight in the path of Allah and, in between each is as great a distance as is between earth and heaven." (Bukhari)

If every Muslim settled down in earnest to clothe himself with the heavenly mantle of righteousness then every nook and corner of the earth would be lit up with the effulgent light of Islam ; but righteousness cannot be attained without the constant worship and remembrance of God. Thus God says in the Holy Quran :

> "I have not created the Jinn and the men but that they may worship me." (Quran 51 : 57)

Worship embraces every thought, word and deed and does not relate only to formal prayers. Whatever is done or avoided solely for the purpose of winning the pleasure of God is an act of worship while any intention displeasing to God has been described as an act of idolatory.

Everything thou hast in thy mind,
Every thought thou nourisheth,
Other than that of God
And of winning His approbation
Is an idol which thou worshippeth.
O thou weak of faith !
Guard well thy heart,
And keep it always
Out of their reach.

(The Promised Messiah)

Righteousness is the elixir of life because it is the only prescription which tranquillises the mind, heart and soul. The Holy Quran teems with verses exhorting Muslims to cultivate righteousness.

"O ye men worship your Lord Who created you and those who were before you that you may become righteous." (3:52)

"The best provision is righteousness." (2:198)

The clarion call of the Holy Quran summons Muslims into the arena of dedication to fight and conquer the enemies of righteouness. The battle of life is no other than the mastery of self in conformity with the ideals of Islam.

The goal of life is now crystal clear, but it should be remembered that nothing worthwhile can be gained without effort. The shining cloak of righteousness shimmers with resplendence high above on its celestial peak. The ascending path is narrow, tortuous and studded with pitfalls; but the impediments are not insurmountable. He who is in earnest can reach the summit ond invest himself with this heavenly mantle.

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